

from the 1990 visits were as follows (further new county records are marked with an asterisk): *Quedius xanthopus* Er., under loose bark on moist rotting oak logs, 5.x.1990; *Dorcatoma flavicornis* (F.)*, one beaten from oak foliage, 29.vii.1990; *Cis fagi* Waltl, numerous in the fungal mycelia of *Laetiporus sulphureus* (Bull. ex Fr.) Bond & Singer, within red-rotten oak heartwood, 3.vi.1990; *C. hispidus* (Payk.)*, one beneath bark on a rotting oak bough, 5.x.1990; *Pseudotriphyllus suturalis* (F.), knocked in numbers from bracket fungi growing on a long-dead fallen oak trunk and within a live hollow oak, 5.x.1990; *Triphyllus bicolor* (F.)*, knocked from a bracket fungus growing on the trunk of an ancient sweet chestnut, 5.x.1990; *Orchesia undulata* Kraatz, one beneath loose bark on large long-dead fallen oak trunk, 5.x.1990; *Phloiotrya vaudoueri* Mul.*, remains of beetle in rotting beech hulk, 5.x.1990; *Phymatodes testaceus* (L.), adults beneath loose bark on dead oak bough and a fallen dead oak trunk, also larvae, 3.vi.1990; and *Platypus cylindrus* (F.)*, single adult crawling up trunk of large live oak, 29.vii.1990.

Nettlecombe Park has now been notified as a site of special scientific interest.

My thanks to Pat Wolseley for encouraging continued work in the Park, to Mike Edgington of English Nature for arranging finance for the visits, and to Andrew Duff for information on the county status of species.—K. N. A. Alexander, 22 Cecily Hill, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 2EF.

REFERENCES

- Alexander, K. N. A. 1988. A relict old forest beetle fauna from Nettlecombe Park in Somerset. *Br. J. Ent. Nat. Hist.* 1: 128.
 Alexander, K. N. A. 1990. *Ptinus subpilosus* Sturm (Coleoptera: Ptinidae) in Somerset. *Br. J. Ent. Nat. Hist.* 3: 128.

***Trachys troglodytes* Gyllenhal (Coleoptera: Buprestidae) and other scarce insects from an unusual wetland area in Cumbria.**—The characteristic eggs and leaf mines of *Trachys troglodytes* were discovered on *Succisa pratensis* Moench growing in a humid heath community within an area of poorly drained pasture at Hollins Farm, Nether Wasdale (NY 105032), 5.vi.1991. This is the first record of this scarce buprestid beetle from the region (VCs 69 and 70), but nicely fills the gap between the known Anglesey localities and an old Dumfries-shire record. Attempts to rediscover the species in the latter area have been unsuccessful.

The site is low-lying land on the flood-plain of the River Irt and comprises about 4 hectares of rushy pasture with a large patch of humid heath and smaller areas of poor marsh and mire, the latter with a system of bog-pools. Also new to the county is the chrysomelid beetle *Chaetocnema confusa* (Boh.), and other beetles present included *Mantura obtusata* (Gyll.) and *Actenicerus sjælandicus* (Muller, O. F.). Other insects included the hoverfly *Microdon mutabilis* (L.), the saldid bug *Salda muelleri* (Gmelin), small pearl-bordered fritillary (*Boloria selene* D. & S.) and the sawfly *Abia sericea* (L.). These are all characteristic inhabitants of good quality humid heath and mire communities.

The site was investigated as part of the National Trust's Biological Survey Programme and so it is possible to say that it is unique within the Trust's very extensive Cumbrian holdings. Whether or not there are comparable sites under other ownership in the region remains to be seen. Although owned by the National Trust, it lies within an agricultural tenancy and there is no public access. The tenancy agreement includes protective restrictions to ensure that the area is conserved.

My thanks to Michael Cox for confirming my identification of the *Chaetocnema* and to John Read for his comments on the local status of the chrysomelids.—K. N. A. Alexander, National Trust, 33 Sheep Street, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 1QW.